

# MILL AVENUE STREETSCAPE

## Phases I - II

### MILL AVENUE FROM UNIVERSITY DRIVE TO MILL AVENUE BRIDGE

The 1987 streetscape project, completed just in time for Pope John Paul II's motorcade down Mill Avenue, expanded the brick sidewalks (part of the 1982 initial enhancement phase) and included a bicycle lane, street trees, benches, lighting, and reconstruction of landscaped median islands. The streetscape is a key unifying element of the downtown, both visually and functionally, tying the old and the new buildings together and providing space for people to walk, rest, linger or move about freely with a minimum of conflict with other types of traffic. The Mill Avenue district is now known nationally for its sense of place.

Recent improvements, suggested by the Downtown Tempe Community, Inc., have been made to improve tree health, retail visibility and further enhance the pedestrian environment, including conversion of one lane of traffic in each direction to parallel parking.

The Mill Avenue Streetscape has received the Valley Forward "Crescordia" Award for Environmental Excellence and the ASLA National Medallion of Merit.

**public role:** Community Block Grant funds covered all costs for Phase One, which was designed and constructed entirely by the City; Phases II & III were financed through the City's Capital Improvement Program

**developer:** City of Tempe (Jim Jones/Glen Kephart, Public Works Directors)

**architect:** initial enhancements: City of Tempe; rehabilitation: Coe & Van Loo (Engineers and Landscape Architects); renovation: Logan-Simpson Design (Landscape Architects)

**builder:** initial enhancements: Terra West; rehab: Nesbitt Construction; renovation: Terra-Cal

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